



Kenmore Heritage Society
**HISTORY PATH
PROJECT**

Twelve Historic Interpretive Signs
Installed in Two Public Parks
2008 – 2009

Kenmore was named in 1901.

In 2008, 107 years later,
Kenmore Heritage Society
set about to create an
interpretive center to preserve
the area's early history for
future generations.



Hard-working volunteers contributed many hours planning the project.

Because of its easy access for families, walkers and bikers on the Burke-Gilman Trail, Log Boom Park on the north shore of Lake Washington was chosen as the location.





Eleven interpretive panels greet visitors along the walkway to the fishing pier.



Welcome panel



THE KENMORE FLAG

IN 1973 THE KENMORE Image Improvement Committee was organized. The group conducted a Kenmore flag would provide a feeling of unity, add a festive atmosphere to festivals and community events, and would portray various aspects and benefits of the community. Designed by artist Robert Craddock, the flag was dedicated at a community ceremony October 5, 1980, and has flown in Kenmore ever since.



WHY IS IT CALLED LOG BOOM PARK?

THE AREA'S historical status was recognized in the 1980s. Passage of the Forward Trust bond issue enabled acquisition of parklands by the King County Parks Department and Log Boom Park became a reality.

The park overlooks a portion of the lake important in the area's early logging industry. It was here, where during the early 1900s, newly cut logs were dumped into the water, some from logging skid road engine "Peggy" at Schuler's Landing, shown below then clustered into log booms—rafts of logs packed with a cable—to be tugged away to sawmills.



Thank you to the following contributors whose generous donations have helped to make the Kenmore History Path a reality.

Jan Allen
Baylor University
Chip and Joan Davidson
Scott Davidson, Alty
Kenmore Air Harbor, Inc.
Kenmore Camera
Kenmore Community Club, Inc.
Kenmore Club of Merchants
Master's Greening & Pet Boutique
Oscar's Drug & Gift
Frank Owen, In Memory of Tracy J. Owen
Plywood Supply, Inc.
Tom and Robin Truog
Williams & Williams PSC



1800s

1864
Puget Mill Company purchases 100 acres of timberland at the future site of Kenmore.

1884
The first fast ferry begins service on Lake Washington and the Sammamish Slough.



1887
Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railroad tracks completed as far as Bethel.



1900s - 1910s

1901
John McMaster opens a shingle mill on January 1; names Kenmore after his Canadian hometown January 12.



1912
Brick road from Lake Forest Park through Kenmore to Bethel is completed.

1919
Lake Washington Ship Canal and Christensen Locks are opened lowering Lake Washington water level by nearly nine feet.

1917
Kenmore's first bridge across Sammamish Slough is built at 80th Avenue.

1920s - 1930s

1925
Improved Golf and Country Club opens.



1929
Kenmore has about 100 people. Kenmore Community Club is organized.

1929
McMaster shingle mill burns.

1932
Kenmore Community Club finishes new clubhouse.



1940s - 1950s

1946
Bob Mares establishes Kenmore Air Harbor in a former swamp beside the lake.



1953
Plywood Supply is established by Ralph Swanson, Sr.

1954
Kenmore voters defeat an incorporation proposal.

1955
Kenmore Library opens in remodeled barn.



1960s - 1980s

1960
Kenmore Fire Department launches a festival.



1970
Kenmore Library moves to modular building at 73rd Avenue NE.

1970
Bethel-Glenn Trail opens.

1980
Official Kenmore community flag is dedicated.



1990s

1990
Baylor University moves to St. Thomas Seminary site.

1990
The City of Kenmore is incorporated, declares a city on August 21.



1999
Kenmore Heritage Society is established.



2000s

2001
Kenmore Pioneer Day is observed January 15th, commemorates the 100th anniversary of the naming of Kenmore by John McMaster.



All things are fair. Kenmore by the lake!





Panels are grouped along the walkway.

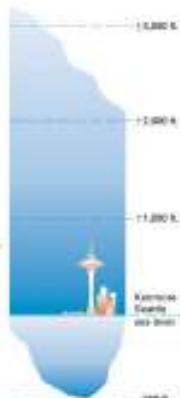


The Hands of Nature Shaped our Mountains and Lakes

For 175 million years the Pacific Ocean floor heaved and pushed, propelling land masses eastward and upward to form the northern Cascade Mountain Range.



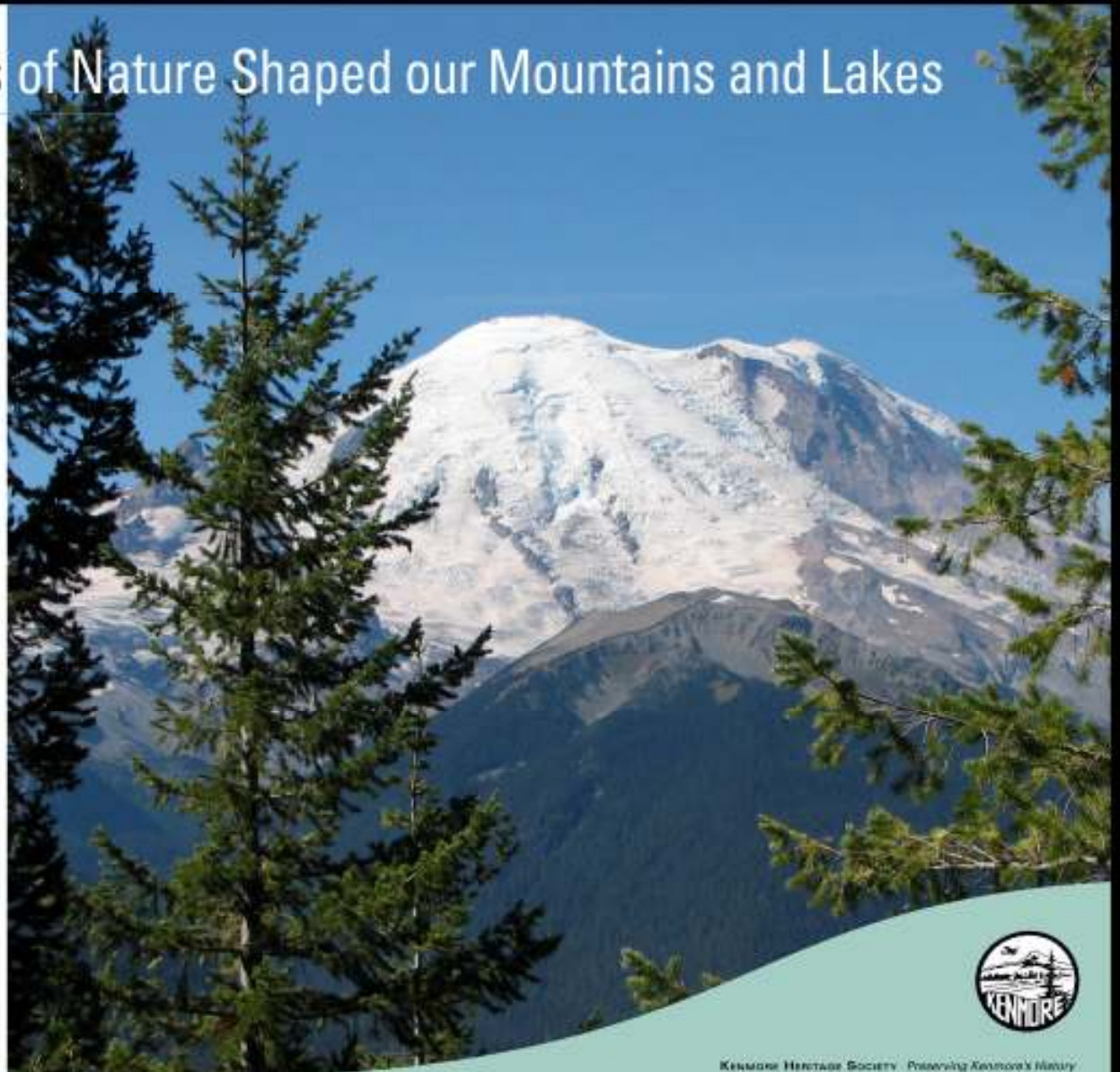
Then the ice ages arrived, lasting almost two million years, burying this area beneath ice nearly a mile deep, and carving out our beautiful lakes and salt water inlets.



As the weather warmed, the ice retreated and forests grew to the water's edge.

About 1,100 years ago an intense earthquake sent huge forested hillsides sliding into Lake Washington. Seven or eight sunken forests remain, some still standing erect on the lake bottom near Mercer Island, off Seward Park, and in front of Kenmore.

The hands of nature in the form of volcanic eruptions, ice-age gouging, and a massive earthquake took their time over millions of years, but eventually they formed the stage on which human settlements began appearing.



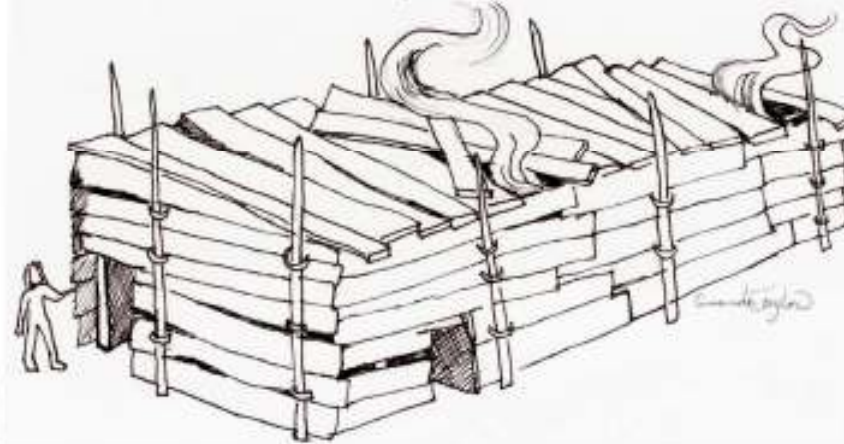
KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History

Panel 1—Geology of the Area



Who were the first residents of the Kenmore area?

Native Americans came to the area centuries ago.



EARLY MIGRANTS settled in villages along the waterways on and near Lake Washington. They worshiped and played, sang and danced, quarreled, loved, and died here. They lived on the waterway that later became known as

the Sammamish Slough. They were the Meanderers.

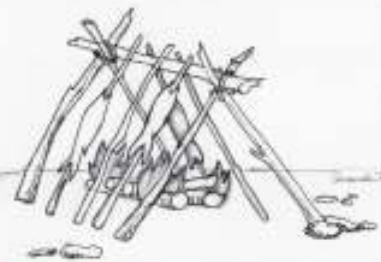
The village of Tl'awh-oh-dees was established in the area of what eventually became Kenmore, and probably

consisted of one or more permanent cedar-plank longhouses, each measuring about fifty feet by one hundred feet and housing several families. There may also have been a separate ceremonial building.

Cedar was one of the Natives' greatest natural resources. It provided material for canoes and planks for houses and burial enclosures. It was a source for rails, shingles, paddles, and arrows and was the

main material for artistic carvings and utensils.

Early Native Americans fashioned cooking racks from hardwood and skewered slabs of fresh salmon over an alder fire.



KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History

Panel 2—Native Americans



The History Path is designed to be kid-friendly.



Plentiful Timber Sparked Kenmore's First Industry

At one time Kenmore was so densely wooded that loggers visualized it supplying timber for generations.



JOHN McMASTER opened a shingle mill on the northeast corner of Lake Washington January 1, 1901.



WATSON SQUIRE is credited with purchasing land and developing the area that is central Kenmore today. Squire was the 12th governor of Washington Territory and served 10 years in the U.S. Senate.



In 1862, Puget Mill bought more than 1,100 acres in the Kenmore area for \$1.25 an acre—\$1,400!

While McMaster's mill was turning logs into

shingles right here in Kenmore, other companies were diligently cutting and selling logs, floating them down the lake for processing. By 1920,

nearly all the timber had been removed from the Kenmore area.



KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History

Panel 3—Logging, Kenmore's First Industry



Kenmore's Scottish Heritage—From Loch Tay to Lake Washington

The history of Kenmore's name spans much of the globe and embraces three separate communities, each located beside a body of water.

THE NAME originated on a Scottish loch (lake), was carried across the ocean to a riverside settlement in Ontario, Canada, and then was given to a community beside Lake Washington.

In the mid-1800s, a man named Peter McLaren left his childhood home of Kenmore in Scotland to take up a new life in Ontario, Canada, settling in Osgoode Township. McLaren was eventually

given the honor of naming the village and proposed the name Kenmore, recalling his home village in Scotland.

In 1875, two young Scotsmen came to Kenmore, Ontario, and started a lumber mill. One of the men, John McMaster, began eyeing a move across the border to the United States. He and his wife Annie moved to Seattle a month before the Great Seattle Fire in 1889. Having heard about plentiful stands of huge cedar trees at the head of Lake Washington, McMaster leased land from Watson Squire and started a sawmill and shingle operation on January 1, 1901. He named the area Kenmore after his former home of Kenmore, Ontario, registering the name with the state January 10, 1901.



Kenmore, Scotland



Kenmore, Canada



Kenmore, Washington



KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History

Panel 4—The Three Kenmores



Winter or summer, the panels tell visitors about Kenmore's colorful history.



Kenmore Parks Provide Fun and Recreation For All

Kenmore's lakeside location has always provided recreational opportunities for its residents.

KENMORE KEY, a citizen group formed in 1969, sought to promote recreational opportunities, beautification, land use and community planning. Through its efforts, several parks were obtained for Kenmore, including sixteen-acre Log Boom Park, recognizing the site's importance in early logging history. It is now known as Tracy Owen Station at Log Boom Park in honor of the late King County councilman and Kenmore resident.

The Ed Niemeyer family and friends enjoy boating and swimming at their summer campsite beside Lake Washington about 1912. Kenmore's lakeside location has always provided recreational opportunities for its residents.

Ward's Beach Resort on the north end of Lake Washington was a popular destination from 1947 to 1969. It is now a marina.



KENMORE PARKS

- Tracy Owen Station at Log Boom Park
- Wallace Swamp Creek Park
- Rhododendron Park
- Swamp Creek Park
- Moorlands Park
- Linwood Park
- St. Edward's State Park
- Sammamish River/Burke-Gilman Trail



KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History



IN THE 1880s the 40-foot Squak (below) ran daily from Seattle's Madison Park on Lake Washington and was the first passenger vessel to operate on the Sammamish Slough. It carried both passengers and freight as far as Issaquah.

Kenmore became accessible to more visitors once red brick paving replaced the dirt road from north Seattle to Bothell in 1914. Several Bothell Stage Line vehicles carry passengers, possibly for a Sunday outing (top right).

In 1946 Kenmore Air began operations on former swamp land on Kenmore's lake shore. During the unusually cold winter

Getting to Kenmore—by Water, Rail, Road and Air

Kenmore was a flag stop for rail passengers and freight beginning in 1887 and lasting until 1941.

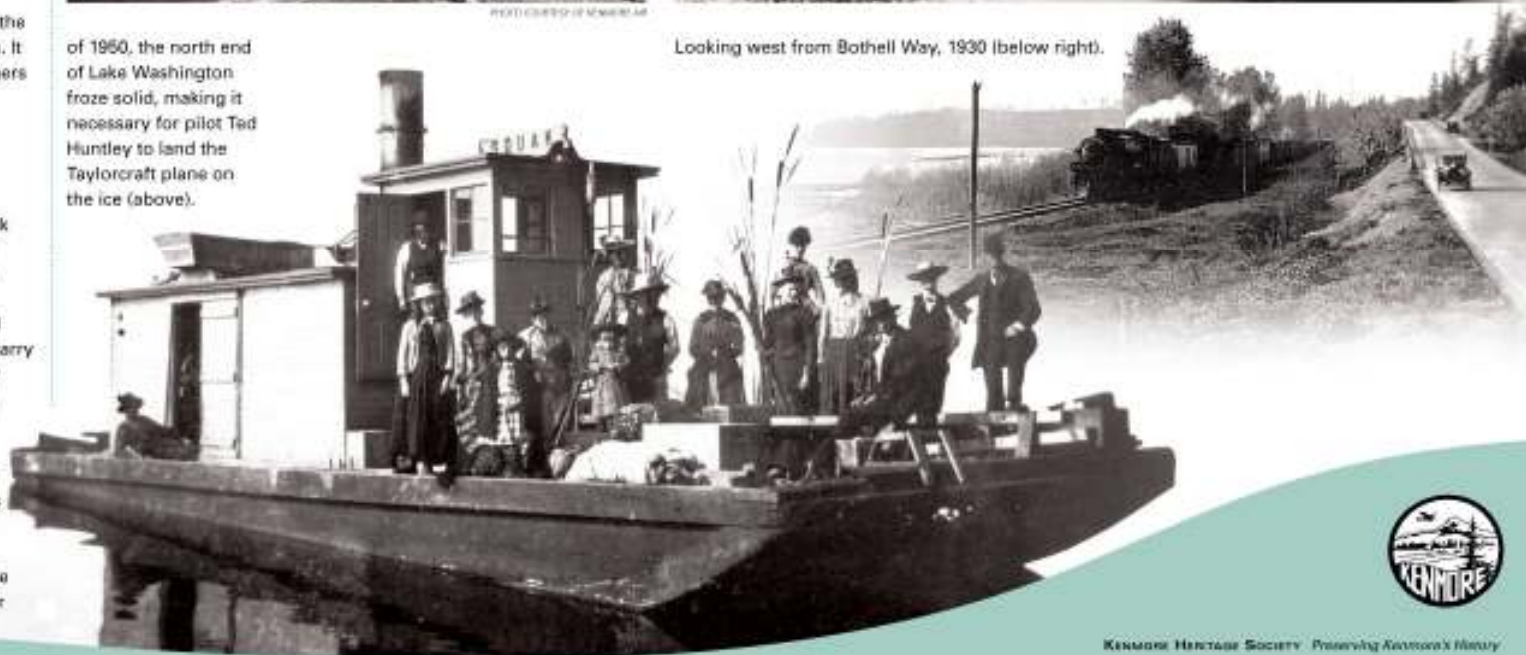


PHOTO COURTESY OF NEWSPHOTO

of 1950, the north end of Lake Washington froze solid, making it necessary for pilot Ted Huntley to land the Taylorcraft plane on the ice (above).



Looking west from Bothell Way, 1930 (below right).



KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History

Panel 6—Transportation



New residents learn about Kenmore
from the History Path.



Kenmore was Famous for Restaurants & Roadhouses

Bothell Way was part of the road between Seattle and Bellingham, and Sunday dinner in Kenmore was a special outing for Seattle residents.

KENMORE'S REPUTATION for eating and entertainment goes back to the early 1900s. Lively Saturday nights in local saloons found loggers mingling with sportsmen who came from the Seattle area to fish or to hunt ducks. The settlement boasted a sportsmen's hotel, boathouse, and floating landing. The Blind Pig saloon at Shuter's Landing later dispatched illegal whiskey to customers and



was prepared to dump the evidence into the lake if suspicions were aroused.

The Cat's Whiskers Cafe welcomed patrons with porch seating, an open doorway, and beans for thirty cents (above).

Henry Lemm offered hamburgers and watermelons at his tavern on Bothell Way which overlooked Lake Washington (below).



Other memorable Kenmore RESTAURANTS & ROADHOUSES

- Kenmore Inn
- Victory Drive Inn
- Inglewood Tavern (Bucket of Blood)
- Dixie Inn
- Harry & Gene's Tavern
- Hot Cake King
- Von's Chili Parlor
- Porterhouse Eagle Inn
- Wishbone
- Schmitzbank
- Tip Top Cafe
- Country Kitchen
- Bob's Place



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There are numerous visitors every day.



Schools and Libraries Grew With the Community

Kenmore was served by bookmobiles for more than thirty years.

SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN of McMaster Mill employees attended class in one of the sawmill shacks like this one (far right), from 1903 until a schoolhouse was built.

Mrs. Belle Nottingham and her eight pupils occupied the new Kenmore School built in 1914. The district consolidated with Bothell in 1916.

Through community efforts, a former barn on 73rd Avenue NE became Kenmore's first library in 1958.



KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History



Building a Better Place to Live

Residents sought entertainment to break up their days of hard work.

LIFE IN KENMORE was not all business. Families found ways to enjoy holidays and weekends together or to celebrate special community events. And they established churches to meet their spiritual needs.

Kenmore Community Club opened its doors in 1932, providing a meeting place for social gatherings and to discuss community improvements (top left). In the late 1940s, a colorful stage curtain was hung (right).

Kenmore's first formal worship group emerged about 1933 and a year later acquired the Tip Top Inn, a defunct roadhouse on Bothell Way. A wooden



bell tower was erected and the facility was christened Kenmore Chapel (middle bottom). Kenmore eventually became home to eight major church congregations.

Inglewood Golf and Country Club (top right) celebrated its grand opening in 1921 (top right). This building burned in 1924 and was replaced with a more-splendid clubhouse in 1925.

Kenmore beauty queens graced the KenFair Days royal float in 1969.

The Sammamish Slough Race drew cheering crowds in 1955 (bottom right).



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Panel 9—Community Life



Kids learn about Kenmore's history.



Kenmore Attains Cityhood in 1998

A community-wide survey concluded most residents preferred Kenmore becoming a city, and an incorporation effort was launched.



LONG ACCUSTOMED to being a part of unincorporated King County, Kenmore residents defeated a number of cityhood efforts between 1950 and 1970. Washington State passed the Growth Management Act in 1990, and things changed. Now declared an urban area, Kenmore was given three options: incorporate, annex to adjacent cities, or

let King County decide. A community-wide survey concluded most residents preferred becoming a city, and an incorporation effort was launched in 1995. A vigorous and well-organized campaign headed by a committee of dedicated volunteers succeeded in getting the measure on the September 18, 1996, ballot. There was

no formal opposition and the measure passed handily.

Kenmore's first City Council (top left) was elected in 1998. Members, left to right, are Tika Esler, Deputy Mayor Dick Taylor, Deborah Chase, Mayor Jack Crawford, Chip Davidson, Steve Colwell, and Elodie Morse. Steve Anderson became first City Manager.

Kenmore citizens celebrate incorporation during the Good Ol' Days Festival, August, 1998 (bottom far left).

After briefly conducting city business in an empty Kenmore Village storefront, a former bank building served as City Hall for the first decade of Kenmore's cityhood.



KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY Preserving Kenmore's History

Panel 10—Kenmore Becomes a City

Citizens gather to dedicate the Path.



KHS President Jack Crawford dedicated the Path Oct. 2008





The Path was dedicated to Jack Crawford in August, 2009, following his untimely death.

The project was expanded to include a panel telling the interesting history of nearby Rhododendron Park.

RHODODENDRON

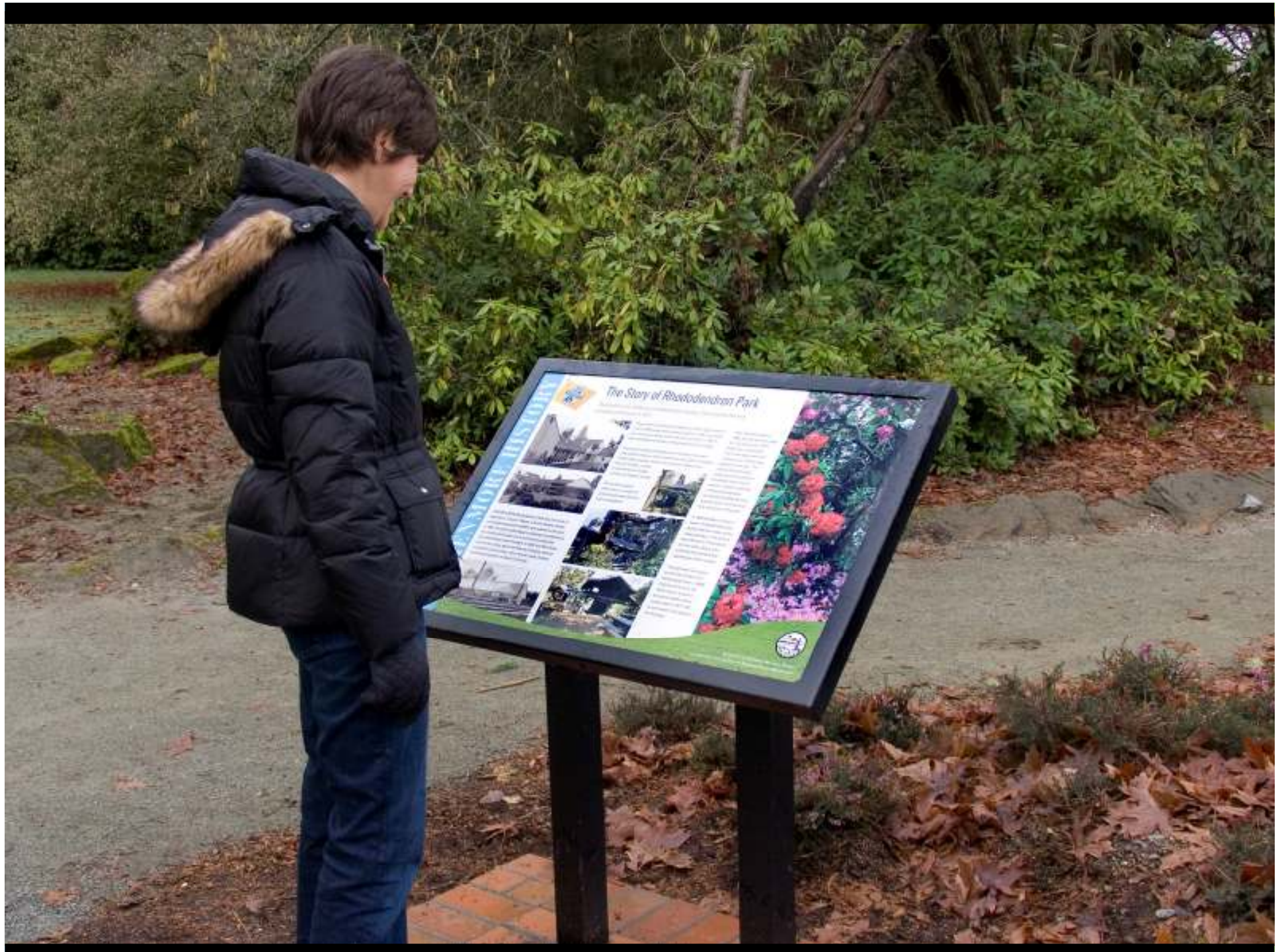


PARK

CITY OF



KENMORE





The Story of Rhododendron Park

Developed in the 1920s as a rhododendron nursery, the property became a popular public park in 1971.



Pearce and his wife built a handsome Tudor style home of nearly 3000 square feet on the property in 1920. It boasted ten rooms, two baths, and three brick porches. In 1941 it was remodeled as shown in these back and front views.

Numerous varieties of azaleas and rhododendrons were hybridized by Pearce, three of which are still sold in nurseries: Pinkey Pearce azalea, Pearce's All American Beauty and Pearce's Golden Jubilee rhododendrons. Golden Jubilee is a fragrant variety.



During the nursery's peak years, a number of greenhouses were built for plant propagation.



THIRTEEN-ACRE Rhododendron Park was the home of Reginald A. "Charlie" Pearce, a former Seattle clothier and Alaska equipment outfitter, who settled on the land in 1920. He and his wife began cultivating rhododendrons as a hobby which grew into a commercial enterprise they called State Flower Nursery. In 1932, the Wall Street Journal ran a story about the Pearces, bringing national recognition to the nursery. Soon boxcar loads of plants were being shipped to markets in the east.



After Pearce's death in 1980, the site stood unused for 10 years and in 1971 became a county park. The home was razed and a large picnic shelter was erected on the site. The original fireplace was preserved and utilized in the shelter, the hood of which is visible in several of these photographs. Hundreds of rhododendron species, both common and rare, still grow in the park.

A 1995 donation of many newer rhododendron and azalea hybrids make up the newer gardens. The donors were Warren F. Timmons III and his wife, Diane, who collected the plants while operating a small nursery.

The park was renovated by the City of Kenmore Parks Department in 2009. Original brick from the 1920s home, reused in the picnic shelter when constructed in 1971, left, is now used in the support for this sign.



A PROJECT OF KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY
IN COOPERATION WITH THE CITY OF KENMORE PARKS DEPARTMENT

The final panel of the project.



Base of recycled brick from the original structure built on the property in 1920.





The Rhododendron Park panel is located near the busy picnic area where many visitors enjoy it.

At last, the project was complete!

But how to let people know?

A full-color trifold promotional flier was designed and 5000 were printed.

They are available to area schools, and are distributed to the public at Kenmore City Hall, Kenmore Library, and other public places.



Cover of the trifold.

To enjoy the present and look to the future, we must understand and appreciate the past.

Kenmore has a rich heritage which is a part of who we are today.

Kenmore History Path is an enjoyable journey for people of all ages. Take a walk down the History Path at Log Boom Park!



"Kenmore by the Lake," a complete history of Kenmore, is available for purchase at Kenmore City Hall. Winner of both state and national awards, this beautiful book is another project of Kenmore Heritage Society.

To learn more about Kenmore Heritage Society, visit www.scn.org/kenmoreheritage



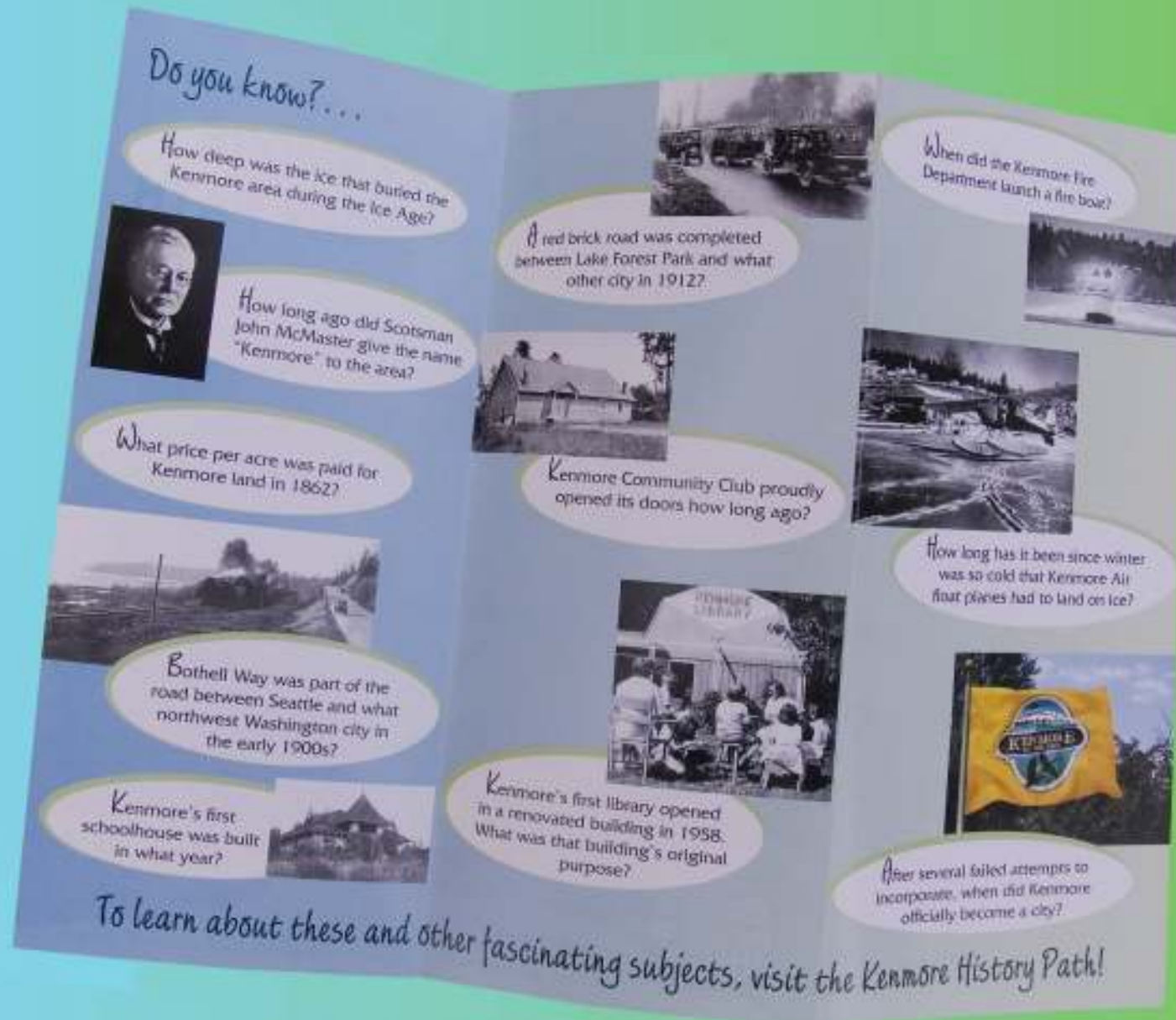
Kenmore Heritage Society
P.O. Box 82027
Kenmore, WA 98028-0027

Take a fascinating stroll down the

KENMORE HISTORY PATH



Tracy Owen Station at:
LOG BOOM PARK
One block south of Bothell Way and 61st Ave, NE on NE 175th St.



The inside. Can you answer the questions?

Do you know?...

How deep was the ice that buried the Kenmore area during the Ice Age?



How long ago did Scotsman John McMaster give the name "Kenmore" to the area?

What price per acre was paid for Kenmore land in 1862?



Bothell Way was part of the road between Seattle and what northwest Washington city in the early 1900s?

Kenmore's first schoolhouse was built in what year?



A red brick road was completed between Lake Forest Park and what other city in 1912?



Kenmore Community Club proudly opened its doors how long ago?



Kenmore's first library opened in a renovated building in 1958. What was that building's original purpose?



When did the Kenmore Fire Department launch a fire boat?



How long has it been since winter was so cold that Kenmore Air float planes had to land on ice?



After several failed attempts to incorporate, when did Kenmore officially become a city?

To learn about these and other fascinating subjects, visit the Kenmore History Path!



For many years to come,
the Kenmore History Path
will help residents and
future generations learn
about their community's
fascinating heritage.

Kenmore Heritage Society members
are proud of their accomplishment!